

From: EPAResearchCompass **Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)**
Sent: 5/17/2016 7:36:45 PM
To: ORD-ALL Feds and NonFeds and RSLs **Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)**
CC: Lackey, Leila [Lackey.Leila@epa.gov]; Iomax, Bonnie [Iomax.Bonnie@epa.gov]; Guerry, Jacqueline B [Guerry.Jacqueline@epa.gov]; Frankel, Michael [Frankel.Michael@epa.gov]; Landy, Ronald [Landy.Ronald@epa.gov]; Widener, Charles [Widener.Charles@epa.gov]
Subject: Weekly Compass: May 17, 2016



Weekly Update: 5/17/2016

Welcome to the Weekly Compass, your gateway to information about recent and upcoming ORD activities. If you have ideas for the Weekly Compass, please send them to the editors. To see each full article on ORD@work, please click on the text that is hyperlinked.

Quick Updates

- Visit Visit OPM's online resource center for up-to-date information regarding the OPM incidents.
- Check out OSIM's May newsletter
- Find out more about all the exciting Skills Marketplace opportunities that are now open like assisting the FTTA (Federal Technology Transfer Act) Program with communication and outreach/inreach efforts (apply for this opportunity by **May 23**)
- The newest Aim High Campaign is now open, log-in to the GreenSpark platform by **May 27th** to share how you and your colleagues are using sustainability principles and approaches to guide your work and make a positive difference.
- Take the Employee Viewpoint Survey by **June 7**! (check your email box for your unique, anonymous link)
- You can read This Week @ EPA newsletter here.
- Check out the latest *It All Starts with Science* blog post.

- Upcoming webinars:
 - EPA and DOE joint Energy Horizons Seminar Series featuring Dr. Jon Koomey: Wednesday, May 18, 1:00-2:30 pm EDT
 - EPA Tools and Resources Webinar: Harmful Algal Blooms: Wednesday, May 18, 3:00 - 4:00 pm EDT
 - Human Subjects Research Ethics Training Series: Privacy and Confidentiality: Thursday, May 19, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm EDT.

Faces of ORD: NCCT's Richard Judson

In the Lab:

Tire Crumb

On May 12, representatives from the U.S. consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and EPA (including OSP) visited the Ex. 3 [CERCLA section 104(e)(7)(42 USC 9604(e)(7))] to see first-hand how tire crumbs are manufactured. The external peer review of the research plan is ongoing, and comments are expected this week. CDC, CPSC and EPA are currently reviewing the public comments that were submitted in response to the Federal Register Notice. Responses to the public comments will be included in the package of information that will be sent to OMB.

Gold King Mine Update

The project team is working to finalize a suite of analyses that evaluate source, transport, fate and potential exposure of metals released from the Gold King Mine. They are also working to complete their formal response to the mid-project peer review comments. The team is preparing webinars that explain their findings. ORD is working with Region and OW partners on a schedule for the rollout of products to the states and tribes in the affected river systems and the public over the next six months.

EnviroAtlas Briefing on Environmental Market Decision Support Tools

Tomorrow, USDA's Office of Environmental Markets will host a pre-release briefing on the new EnviroAtlas Environmental Market Decision Support Tools for federal agencies. These new data layers show where U.S. markets for water, carbon, wetlands, and habitats occur in the landscape; provide information about the markets; and allow the information to be displayed along with other environmental data. This allows users to better understand trends, gaps, opportunities, demand, and the enabling or limiting conditions for environmental markets. The USDA, EPA, and ForestTrends' Ecosystem Marketplace partnered to incorporate environmental markets data into EnviroAtlas. The briefing will introduce the tool and data layers to Federal agency personnel, and identify those interested in participating in a beta-test.

Nutrient Management Grantee Publication

Director Dr. James Mihelcic, Director of the National Priorities Center for Reinventing Aging Infrastructure for Nutrient Management (RAINmgt) (located within the University of South Florida), and colleagues published an article in *Environmental Science and Technology*, "How Does Scale of Implementation Impact the Environmental of Wastewater Treatment Integrated with Resource Recovery?" Many modern wastewater treatment plants require high levels of energy and chemicals to maintain their operations. Some studies have shown that the water and wastewater industry accounts for 3.4% of total electricity use in the US. Researchers use life cycle assessment to evaluate how scale of implementation (household, community, city)

impacted the environmental sustainability of wastewater treatment integrated across water reuse, energy recovery, and nutrient recycling. At all scales, the carbon footprint, embodied energy, and eutrophication impacts avoided through water reuse were greater than the impacts avoided through nutrient recycling and energy recovery.

Draft IRIS Toxicological Review of Tert-Butyl Alcohol (Tert-Butanol) Available

Yesterday, EPA released a draft IRIS assessment for *tert*-Butanol for public comment. The draft assessment will be discussed at an IRIS public science meeting that will be held June 29-30.

Accolades:

NERL ORISE Fellow Wins 2016 President's Gold Award for Volunteer Service

ORD is happy to announce that Ms. Amanda Kaufman has received the 2016 President's Gold Award for Volunteer Service. This award was presented by the Corporation for National and Community Service and was given "in recognition and appreciation for commitment to strengthen our nation and communities through volunteer service." Ms. Kaufman is an ORISE fellow with the NERL's Exposure Methods and Measurements Division who is conducting research in support of citizen science and emerging technologies. She received the award as part of a program associated with a Citizen Schools WOW event in Durham, North Carolina. Ms. Kaufman has volunteered over the last three years, instructing middle school students in an after school education program. She has helped teach students about topics such as air pollution sources, air quality monitoring including emerging sensor technologies, renewable energy and responsible energy consumption.

OW Releases National Wetland Condition Assessment and Thanks ORD Colleagues

The National Wetland Condition Assessment (NWCA) is a collaborative survey of our Nation's wetlands. The NWCA examines the chemical, physical and biological integrity of wetlands through a set of commonly used and widely accepted indicators. OW sent a note on behalf of the entire National Aquatic Resource Surveys team at HQ, thanking their ORD colleagues who have been working to help plan and implement the National Rivers and Streams Assessment. The email said, "We wouldn't be releasing this report without their tremendous efforts and expertise."

2017 Society for Freshwater Science Distinguished Service Award

NCEA's Susan Norton has been selected as the winner of the 2017 Society for Freshwater Science Distinguished Service Award, which she will receive at the 2017 annual meeting in Raleigh, NC. Susan is a well-known leader in the field of ecological causal assessment, and has recently authored a textbook on that topic-with ORD co-authors Susan Cormier and Glenn Suter. Susan has been instrumental in the development and application of the Causal Analysis/Diagnosis Decision Information System, which was most recently used to assist the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection to examine recent outbreaks of disease and mortality in Smallmouth Bass populations in the Susquehanna River.

In the Office:

Graduation for NCER's Pilot of Human Subjects Research Training Program

On May 12, Toby Schonfeld (OSA) and Jim Johnson (NCER) co-hosted a commencement ceremony for the 27 graduates of the NCER pilot of the Human Subjects Research Training Program. The program provides trainees the sensitivity, awareness and tools to identify and ensure the proper review of human subjects research in EPA supported projects. These graduates are now poised to better represent EPA's human subjects protections to PIs and research coordinators across all RFAs. If you are interested in participating in this training program, or having your staff participate, please contact Toby Schonfeld.



Nominations Due by May 20 for the White House's 2015 GreenGov Presidential Awards

The White House Council on Environmental Quality's 2015 GreenGov Presidential Awards honor both individuals and teams in 12 categories. Nominations cover projects that were primarily carried out in FY 2015. The nomination form/process is electronic, and is designed for the nominator to also be the submitter – it does not permit routing/review beyond the submitter, so it cannot be forwarded within your organization for review. This year, no additional reviews or approvals beyond your organization will be required, but we do advise that each LCO's IO are made aware of and/or clear submissions. Please note that the nomination form indicates that it must be completed and submitted in a single session. If you have any questions, please contact Pat Vaughan.

The 12 nomination categories for submission:

- 1) Climate Champion Award
- 2) Sustainability Heroes Award
- 3) Green Innovation Award
- 4) Lean, Clean, and Green Award
- 5) Green Dream Team Award
- 6) Good Neighbor Award
- 7) Building the Future Award
- 8) Greening the Fleet Award
- 9) Purchasing Power Award
- 10) Keeping It Clean Award
- 11) Resilience Role Model Award
- 12) The Ripple Effect Award

Early Time and Attendance Entry for Pay Period Ending May 28, 2016

Employees are required to input, "attest and submit" and "save" their time and attendance information in People Plus by 10:00 PM EDT on Wednesday, May 25, 2016. All managers and supervisors with time approval responsibilities must complete their approvals of submitted time cards by 10:00 PM EDT on Thursday, May 26, 2016.

Employees are required to input, "attest and submit" and "save" their corrected time and attendance information in People Plus by 10:00 PM EDT on Monday, May 23, 2016. All managers and supervisors with time approval responsibilities must complete their approvals of the correction timecards by 10:00 PM EDT on Tuesday, May 24, 2016. Please remember that employees will receive pay only after they and their supervisors certify their timecards in People Plus. If you have questions regarding this schedule, please contact the HR and Payroll Customer Service Help Desk or by calling 1-866-411-4372, option 2.

eLearning Update: New Resources Added

Take charge of your professional development and tap into the online learning courses that are constantly updated on EPA's eLearning site. Over 50 new online courses and many new books, videos and other resources have been added and are available to all EPA employees at work or from home, 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. **Tip:** Employees Can Now Earn Up to 20 Continuous Learning Points (CLPs) via EPA eLearning. The Acquisition Training team has developed a new CLP-COR content series, which enables EPA employees to earn up to 20 CLPs via the EPA eLearning system.

Who's Traveling:

Field Demonstration of Air Monitoring Technology in Haverhill, MA

NRMRL's Brian Gullett and his team are conducting a field demonstration of an online monitoring technology at the Covanta waste-to-energy plant in Haverhill over the next 8 days. The resonance-enhanced multiphoton ionization (REMPI) technology will be used to measure indicator compounds of chlorinated dioxins/furans. NRMRL has a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) with Covanta to determine plant operational changes that may cause changes in dioxin/furan concentrations prior to air pollution control. The work supports ACE research in Emission Measurement Methods Development.

NERL GIS Research Presented to International Students and Young Researchers

Dr. Murray Scown (NERL, ORISE) will deliver an invited plenary talk at the International Conference for Geography, Environment and GIS for Students and Young Researchers. The meeting takes place May 19th thru 21st in Targoviste, Romania. Scown's presentation, *Novel GIS Approaches to Watershed Science and Management: Description, Prediction and Integration*, will focus on the innovative approaches he has used in different projects during his time with EPA. While attending the conference, Scown will also meet with scientists from Valahia University to discuss spatial data availability in Europe with an eye on the applicability of U.S. projects internationally.

In the News:

EPA Announces New York High School Student Wins Patrick Hurd Sustainability Award

A Dix Hills, New York, high school senior has won the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Patrick H. Hurd Sustainability Award for a project currently providing clean drinking water affordably to a community in Kenya. Alexis D'Alessandro, a senior at Half Hollow Hills High School West in Dix Hills, New York won the award for providing a cost-effective alternative to reverse osmosis water purification for a community in the Turkana Basin of Kenya. A 9th grade classroom lesson on global water scarcity inspired her environmental engineering project, "Design and Implementation of a Sustainable Permeate Gap Membrane Distillation System for Water Purification in the Turkana Basin of Kenya." Ms. D'Alessandro took part in the Intel International Science & Engineering Fair in Phoenix, Ariz. this week, along with 1759 other student scientists and engineers from 77 countries, regions, and territories. The EPA Patrick H. Hurd Sustainability award gives the student winner and a chaperone the opportunity to display the student's project at EPA's National Sustainable Design Expo in Washington, DC, featuring the People, Prosperity, and the Planet (P3) Student Design Competition, in the spring of 2017.

NYC Subway Simulates Transport of Airborne Bio-Agent

The subway bio-agent simulant transport testing is getting local news coverage in NYC. The study is being led by DHS, and EPA is a strong contributor to this study with several people (ORD and OLEM) on site assisting with sampling.



Sampling team collecting a PSU sample from Rockefeller Center Station.

PBS and European Chemicals Agency Promote EPA Chemical Evaluation Research

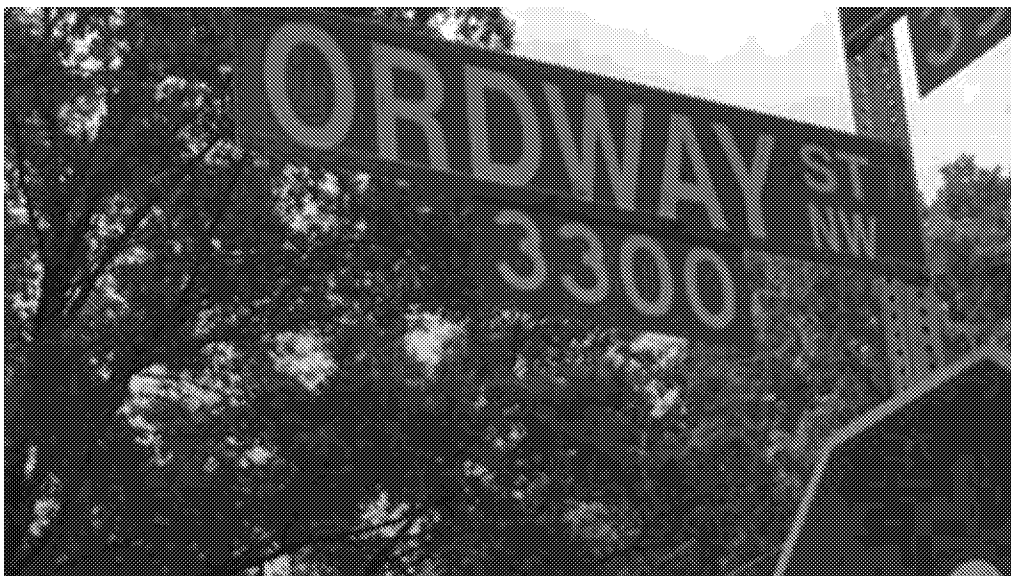
EPA's chemical safety research was promoted by PBS and the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA). The PBS segment on the North Carolina public television network (UNC-TV) describes EPA's high-throughput chemical evaluation research. ECHA promoted EPA's efforts to develop alternative methods for testing chemicals by highlighting our involvement in a Scientific Workshop that Drs. Thomas and Judson attended. ECHA promoted EPA's involvement in the workshop through a video, social media, and the ECHA newsletter. ECHA's scientific workshop focused on discussing how these new methods could be used to inform regulations.

In the Community:

RTP STEM Activity

On Friday, EPA will participate in STEM Day at Northside Elementary School in Chapel Hill, N.C. EPA employees will lead the students through hands-on activities to teach them about science and the environment.

ORDWAY

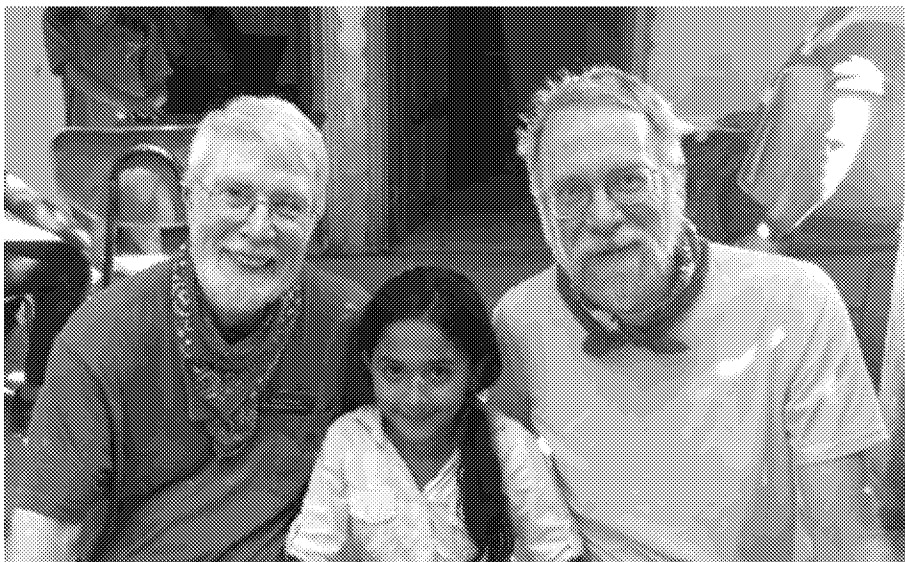


Thanks to Bob Kavlock for snapping this photo of the path forward in Washington, DC.

Faces of ORD: NCCT's Richard Judson

Every other issue of the EPA Weekly Compass features one of ORD's outstanding employees. If you would like to nominate someone to be featured, please contact Kelsey Maloney or Megan Maguire.

Apologies for last week's mistake, to clarify we're reprinting Richard Judson's profile.



Name: Richard Judson

Job/Position: Bioinformatician

L/C/O or Program: National Center for Computational Toxicology (NCCT) in RTP, NC

1. When did you start at EPA? I will have been here for 10 years this September.

2. What's the most interesting thing about your job? One great thing about science is how international it is. Combining that with the NCCT's focus on data sharing and collaboration, I've

been able to work with people all over the world. It's great to find that there are geeky introverts everywhere.

3. What's the most interesting thing in your workspace? I have pictures of my grandfathers and one of my great-grandfathers in their workspaces (although I suspect that they wouldn't have used that word). My great-grandfather is in his shop building a wagon wheel, which is completely foreign to our modern lives, but by the next generation everything looks pretty familiar. One grandfather is working on a teletype machine, which is a not-too distant ancestor of some of the devices in my office, and the other grandfather is annotating oil well logs, which are as complicated as a lot of the data we look at today.

4. What's your favorite thing to do (besides come to work)? Each January, I go to Honduras to help with a medical group that serves people from a series of villages in the mountains near the Nicaraguan border. The picture shows me (in the yellow shirt), my friend Pete Crow, and our new friend Yohaney Clarissa Moreno. Pete and I spend the week entertaining all of the kids who come to the clinic with their families, typically for their only medical care for the year. This year Yohaney came with her family one day, but then walked back by herself the next day (about 2 hours each way) to bring us a beautiful thank-you letter. She was also the only kid who was brave enough to correct my baby Spanish.

5. What's your favorite lunch spot? Sadly it's sitting in front of my computer.

6. If you could have one superpower, what would it be? Is being able to not say stupid things in public a superpower? If it isn't, it should be.

7. What are you looking forward to this summer? I spend a lot of time in the spring working on a big flower garden at home, and I'm hoping that by the time summer comes I can just sit back and enjoy it, instead of coming up with new ways to keep the deer from eating all the plants.